



PRESS RELEASE

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HBCU Library Alliance Celebrates 10 Years of Service at Annual Membership Meeting

Atlanta, Georgia – December 5, 2012 - The Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Library Alliance held its annual membership meeting on October 21-23, 2012. The membership meeting was a celebration of the first 10 years of service for the HBCU Library Alliance, with a focus on the next 10 years of service promoting excellence in library leadership and services.

The theme of the meeting was Protecting Our Legacy, Preserving Our Story: A Decade of Investment in HBCU Libraries. Held in New Orleans, LA, members from many HBCU libraries attended the meeting to discuss ways to enhance the academic experience by integrating services with learning and technology. Speakers and panelists included HBCU Library Alliance members, community experts on preservation, digitization and sustainability, and the Associate Director of the White House Initiative on HBCUs, Ron Blakely.

The membership meeting also served as the first fundraiser for the Alliance, with \$7,000 raised from individuals at HBCU Library Alliance member institutions and the community at large. The meeting kicked off the decade of investment challenge, called the 100 Plan, which encourages individuals to donate a minimum of \$100 to the Alliance, with monies supporting the work of the HBCU Library Alliance as a standalone non-profit membership organization.

“We had a wonderful celebration of the first 10 years, culminating in a substantial amount of dollars raised and a renewed sense of purpose to challenge ourselves over the next 10 years to take the HBCU Library Alliance and its members to the next level of librarianship,” states Mary Jo Fayoyin, Director of Library Services at Savannah State University (GA) and Chair of the HBCU Library Alliance Board of Directors.

Founding member Loretta Parham, Chief Executive Officer and Director, Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library (GA) says, “So much has been accomplished in these 10 years! The projects, training and collaborations have contributed greatly to the advancement of HBCU library leadership, to institutional preservation and to faculty goals of quality teaching and learning. The Atlanta University Center is very proud to be a longstanding member of this organization.”

“I am pleased with the excitement and support for the Alliance and our community. I look forward to furthering our goal of enhancing education through librarianship and working together over the next decade,” says Sandra Phoenix, HBCU Library Alliance Executive Director.

For more information about the HBCU Library Alliance, please visit www.hbculibraries.org.



left to right: Elsie Weatherington, Virginia State University, Ron Blakely, White House Initiative on HBCUs, Sandra Phoenix, HBCU Library Alliance, Emma Bradford Perry, Southern University and A&M College (LA), Loretta Parham, Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library (GA), Mary Jo Fayoyin, Savannah State University (GA), Joseph Silver, Alabama State University, Cynthia Henderson, Howard University (DC)

About the HBCU Library Alliance

The HBCU Library Alliance is a consortium that supports the collaboration of institutions dedicated to providing resources designed to strengthen the libraries and archives of Historically Black Colleges and Universities and their constituents. The purpose of the HBCU Alliance is to ensure excellence in HBCU Libraries and the development, coordination, and promotion of programs and activities to enhance member libraries.